

Effective 5/12/2015

Chapter 12 Science and Education Programs

Part 1 State Advisory Council on Science and Technology

63N-12-101 Title -- Purpose.

- (1) This chapter is known as "Science and Education Programs."
- (2) This part is known as the "State Advisory Council on Science and Technology."
- (3) The purpose of this part is to establish an advisory council on science and technology to assist in the development of programs, communication, and use of science and technology in governmental organizations in the state.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 283, 2015 General Session

63N-12-102 Definition of terms.

As used in this part:

- (1) "Adviser" means the state science adviser appointed under this part.
- (2) "Council" means the State Advisory Council on Science and Technology created under this part.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 283, 2015 General Session

63N-12-103 Creation.

There is created the State Advisory Council on Science and Technology within the Governor's Office of Economic Development, which shall perform the functions and duties provided in this part.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 283, 2015 General Session

63N-12-104 Members -- Appointment -- Terms -- Qualifications -- Vacancies -- Chair and vice chair -- Executive secretary -- Executive committee -- Quorum -- Expenses.

- (1) The council comprises the following nonvoting members or their designees:
 - (a) the adviser;
 - (b) the executive director of the Department of Natural Resources;
 - (c) the executive director of the Department of Heritage and Arts;
 - (d) the executive director of the Department of Health;
 - (e) the executive director of the Department of Environmental Quality;
 - (f) the commissioner of agriculture and food;
 - (g) the commissioner of higher education;
 - (h) the state planning coordinator; and
 - (i) the executive director of the Department of Transportation.
- (2) The governor may appoint other voting members, not to exceed 12.
- (3)
 - (a) Except as required by Subsection (3)(b), as terms of current council members expire, the governor shall appoint each new member or reappointed member to a four-year term.

- (b) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (3)(a), the governor shall, at the time of appointment or reappointment, adjust the length of terms to ensure that the terms of council members are staggered so that approximately half of the council is appointed every two years.
- (4) The governor shall consider all institutions of higher education in the state in the appointment of council members.
- (5) The voting members of the council shall be experienced or knowledgeable in the application of science and technology to business, industry, or public problems and have demonstrated their interest in and ability to contribute to the accomplishment of the purposes of this part.
- (6) When a vacancy occurs in the membership for any reason, the replacement shall be appointed for the unexpired term.
- (7)
 - (a) Each year the council shall select from its membership a chair and a vice chair.
 - (b) The chair and vice chair shall hold office for one year or until a successor is appointed and qualified.
- (8) The adviser serves as executive secretary of the council.
- (9) An executive committee shall be established consisting of the chair, vice chair, and the adviser.
- (10)
 - (a) In order to conduct business matters of the council at regularly convened meetings, a quorum consisting of a simple majority of the total voting membership of the council is required.
 - (b) All matters of business affecting public policy require not less than a simple majority of affirmative votes of the total membership.
- (11) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:
 - (a) Section 63A-3-106;
 - (b) Section 63A-3-107; and
 - (c) rules made by the Division of Finance under Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 283, 2015 General Session

63N-12-105 Duties and powers.

- (1) The council shall:
 - (a) encourage the use of science and technology in the administration of state and local government;
 - (b) develop programs whereby state agencies and the several public and private institutions of higher education and technical colleges within the state may assist business and industry in the utilization of science and technology;
 - (c) further communication between agencies of federal, state, and local government who wish to utilize science and technology;
 - (d) develop programs of cooperation on matters of science and technology between:
 - (i) state and local government agencies;
 - (ii) the several public and private institutions of higher education and technical colleges within the state; and
 - (iii) business and industry within the state; or
 - (iv) any combination of these;
 - (e) provide a means whereby government, business, industry, and higher education may be represented in the formulation and implementation of state policies and programs on matters of science and technology;

- (f) review, catalog, and compile the research and development uses by the state universities of the revenue derived from mineral lease funds on state and federal lands;
 - (g) submit an annual report to the office regarding the expenditure and utilization of these mineral lease funds for inclusion in the office's annual written report described in Section 63N-1-301;
 - (h) make recommendations to the Legislature on the further uses of these mineral lease funds in order to stimulate research and development directed toward the more effective utilization of the state's natural resources; and
 - (i) prepare and submit, before November 1, an annual written report to the governor and the Legislature.
- (2) The council may:
- (a) in accordance with Title 63J, Chapter 5, Federal Funds Procedures Act, apply for, receive, and disburse funds, contributions, or grants from whatever source for the purposes set forth in this part;
 - (b) employ, compensate, and prescribe the duties and powers of those individuals, subject to the provisions of this part relating to the adviser, necessary to execute the duties and powers of the council; and
 - (c) enter into contracts for the purposes of this part.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 283, 2015 General Session

63N-12-106 Adviser -- Duties and powers.

- (1) The adviser shall be appointed by the governor.
- (2) The adviser shall be experienced or knowledgeable in the application of science and technology to business, industry, or public problems and shall have demonstrated interest in or ability to contribute to the accomplishment of the purposes of this part.
- (3) The adviser shall be compensated pursuant to the wage and salary classification plan for appointed officers of the state currently in effect.
- (4)
 - (a) The adviser shall have those duties and powers the council assigns.
 - (b) The adviser, with the advice of the council, may enter into contracts and agreements and may incur expenses necessary to fulfill the purposes of this part.
- (5) The adviser shall be administratively responsible to the executive director of the office.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 283, 2015 General Session

63N-12-107 Request for information.

All departments, divisions, boards, commissions, agencies, institutions, and all other instrumentalities of the state shall, upon request of the council, provide the council with any information that these instrumentalities have concerning research in science and technology.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 283, 2015 General Session

63N-12-108 Science education program.

- (1)
 - (a) There is established an informal science and technology education program within the office.
 - (b) The state science advisor shall act as the director of the program.
 - (c) The State Advisory Council on Science and Technology shall advise the program, including:
 - (i) approving all money expended by the science and technology education program;

- (ii) approving all operations of the program; and
 - (iii) making policies and procedures to govern the program.
- (2) The program may:
- (a) provide informal science and technology-based education to elementary and secondary students;
 - (b) expose public education students to college level science and technology disciplines; and
 - (c) provide other informal promotion of science and technology education in the state.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 283, 2015 General Session

Part 2

STEM Action Center

63N-12-201 Title.

This part is known as the "STEM Action Center."

Enacted by Chapter 283, 2015 General Session

63N-12-202 Definitions.

As used in this part:

- (1) "Board" means the STEM Action Center Board created in Section 63N-12-203.
- (2) "Educator" has the same meaning as defined in Section 53A-6-103.
- (3) "High quality professional development" means professional development that meets high quality standards developed by the State Board of Education.
- (4) "Office" means the Governor's Office of Economic Development.
- (5) "Provider" means a provider, selected by staff of the board and staff of the Utah State Board of Education, on behalf of the board:
 - (a) through a request for proposals process; or
 - (b) through a direct award or sole source procurement process for a pilot described in Section 63N-12-206.
- (6) "STEM" means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.
- (7) "STEM Action Center" means the center described in Section 63N-12-205.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 283, 2015 General Session

63N-12-203 STEM Action Center Board creation -- Membership.

- (1) There is created the STEM Action Center Board within the office, composed of the following members:
 - (a) six private sector members who represent business, appointed by the governor;
 - (b) the state superintendent of public instruction or the state superintendent of public instruction's designee;
 - (c) the commissioner of higher education or the commissioner of higher education's designee;
 - (d) one member appointed by the governor;
 - (e) a member of the State Board of Education, chosen by the chair of the State Board of Education;
 - (f) the executive director of the office or the executive director's designee;

- (g) the Utah College of Applied Technology commissioner of technical education or the Utah College of Applied Technology commissioner of technical education's designee;
 - (h) the executive director of the Department of Workforce Services or the executive director of the Department of Workforce Services' designee; and
 - (i) one member who has a degree in engineering and experience working in a government military installation, appointed by the governor.
- (2)
- (a) The private sector members appointed by the governor in Subsection (1)(a) shall represent a business or trade association whose primary focus is science, technology, or engineering.
 - (b) Except as required by Subsection (2)(c), members appointed by the governor shall be appointed to four-year terms.
 - (c) The length of terms of the members shall be staggered so that approximately half of the committee is appointed every two years.
 - (d) The members may not serve more than two full consecutive terms except where the governor determines that an additional term is in the best interest of the state.
 - (e) When a vacancy occurs in the membership for any reason, the replacement shall be appointed for the unexpired term.
- (3) Attendance of a simple majority of the members constitutes a quorum for the transaction of official committee business.
- (4) Formal action by the committee requires a majority vote of a quorum.
- (5) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:
- (a) Section 63A-3-106;
 - (b) Section 63A-3-107; and
 - (c) rules made by the Division of Finance under Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.
- (6) The governor shall select the chair of the board to serve a two-year term.
- (7) The executive director of the office or the executive director's designee shall serve as the vice chair of the board.

Amended by Chapter 139, 2016 General Session

Amended by Chapter 236, 2016 General Session

63N-12-204 STEM Action Center Board -- Duties.

- (1) The board shall:
- (a) establish a STEM Action Center to:
 - (i) coordinate STEM activities in the state among the following stakeholders:
 - (A) the State Board of Education;
 - (B) school districts and charter schools;
 - (C) the State Board of Regents;
 - (D) institutions of higher education;
 - (E) parents of home-schooled students;
 - (F) other state agencies; and
 - (G) business and industry representatives;
 - (ii) align public education STEM activities with higher education STEM activities; and
 - (iii) create and coordinate best practices among public education and higher education;
 - (b) with the consent of the Senate, appoint a director to oversee the administration of the STEM Action Center;
 - (c) select a physical location for the STEM Action Center;

- (d) strategically engage industry and business entities to cooperate with the board:
 - (i) to support high quality professional development and provide other assistance for educators and students; and
 - (ii) to provide private funding and support for the STEM Action Center;
- (e) give direction to the STEM Action Center and the providers selected through a request for proposals process pursuant to this part; and
- (f) work to meet the following expectations:
 - (i) that at least 50 educators are implementing best practice learning tools in classrooms;
 - (ii) performance change in student achievement in each classroom participating in a STEM Action Center project; and
 - (iii) that students from at least 50 schools in the state participate in the STEM competitions, fairs, and camps described in Subsection 63N-12-205(2)(d).
- (2) The board may:
 - (a) enter into contracts for the purposes of this part;
 - (b) apply for, receive, and disburse funds, contributions, or grants from any source for the purposes set forth in this part;
 - (c) employ, compensate, and prescribe the duties and powers of individuals necessary to execute the duties and powers of the board;
 - (d) prescribe the duties and powers of the STEM Action Center providers; and
 - (e) in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, make rules to administer this part.
- (3) The board may establish a foundation to assist in:
 - (a) the development and implementation of the programs authorized under this part to promote STEM education; and
 - (b) implementation of other STEM education objectives described in this part.
- (4) A foundation established by the board under Subsection (3):
 - (a) may solicit and receive contributions from a private organization for STEM education objectives described in this part;
 - (b) shall comply with Title 51, Chapter 7, State Money Management Act;
 - (c) does not have power or authority to incur contractual obligations or liabilities that constitute a claim against public funds;
 - (d) may not exercise executive or administrative authority over the programs or other activities described in this part, except to the extent specifically authorized by the board;
 - (e) shall provide the board with information detailing transactions and balances of funds managed for the board; and
 - (f) may not:
 - (i) engage in lobbying activities;
 - (ii) attempt to influence legislation; or
 - (iii) participate in any campaign activity for or against:
 - (A) a political candidate; or
 - (B) an initiative, referendum, proposed constitutional amendment, bond, or any other ballot proposition submitted to the voters.
- (5) Money donated to a foundation established under Subsection (3) may be accounted for in an expendable special revenue fund.

Amended by Chapter 139, 2016 General Session

63N-12-205 STEM Action Center.

- (1) As funding allows, the board shall:
 - (a) establish a STEM Action Center;
 - (b) ensure that the STEM Action Center:
 - (i) is accessible by the public; and
 - (ii) includes the components described in Subsection (2);
 - (c) work cooperatively with the State Board of Education to:
 - (i) further STEM education; and
 - (ii) ensure best practices are implemented as described in Sections 63N-12-206 and 63N-12-207;
 - (d) engage private entities to provide financial support or employee time for STEM activities in schools in addition to what is currently provided by private entities; and
 - (e) work cooperatively with stakeholders to support and promote activities that align STEM education and training activities with the employment needs of business and industry in the state.
- (2) As funding allows, the director of the STEM Action Center shall:
 - (a) support high quality professional development for educators regarding STEM education;
 - (b) ensure that the STEM Action Center acts as a research and development center for STEM education through a request for proposals process described in Section 63N-12-206;
 - (c) review and acquire STEM education related materials and products for:
 - (i) high quality professional development;
 - (ii) assessment, data collection, analysis, and reporting; and
 - (iii) public school instruction;
 - (d) facilitate participation in interscholastic STEM related competitions, fairs, camps, and STEM education activities;
 - (e) engage private industry in the development and maintenance of the STEM Action Center and STEM Action Center projects;
 - (f) use resources to bring the latest STEM education learning tools into public education classrooms;
 - (g) identify at least 10 best practice innovations used in Utah that have resulted in a measurable improvement in student performance or outcomes in STEM areas;
 - (h) identify best practices being used outside the state and, as appropriate, develop and implement selected practices through a pilot program;
 - (i) identify:
 - (i) learning tools for kindergarten through grade 6 identified as best practices; and
 - (ii) learning tools for grades 7 through 12 identified as best practices;
 - (j) collect data on Utah best practices, including best practices from public education, higher education, the Utah Education and Telehealth Network, and other STEM related entities;
 - (k) keep track of the following items related to best practices described in Subsection (2)(j):
 - (i) how the best practices data are being used; and
 - (ii) how many individuals are using the data, including the demographics of the users, if available;
 - (l) as appropriate, join and participate in a national STEM network;
 - (m) work cooperatively with the State Board of Education to designate schools as STEM schools, where the schools have agreed to adopt a plan of STEM implementation in alignment with criteria set by the State Board of Education and the board;
 - (n) support best methods of high quality professional development for STEM education in kindergarten through grade 12, including methods of high quality professional development

- that reduce cost and increase effectiveness, to help educators learn how to most effectively implement best practice learning tools in classrooms;
- (o) recognize achievement in the STEM competitions, fairs, and camps described in Subsection (2)(d);
 - (p) send student results from STEM competitions, fairs, and camps described in Subsection (2)(d) to media and ask the media to report on them;
 - (q) develop and distribute STEM information to parents of students in the state ;
 - (r) support targeted high quality professional development for improved instruction in STEM education, including:
 - (i) improved instructional materials that are dynamic and engaging for students;
 - (ii) use of applied instruction; and
 - (iii) introduction of other research-based methods that support student achievement in STEM areas; and
 - (s) ensure that an online college readiness assessment tool be accessible by:
 - (i) public education students; and
 - (ii) higher education students.
- (3) The board may prescribe other duties for the STEM Action Center in addition to the responsibilities described in this section.
- (4)
- (a) The director shall work with an independent evaluator to track and compare the student performance of students participating in a STEM Action Center program to all other similarly situated students in the state, if appropriate, in the following activities:
 - (i) public education high school graduation rates;
 - (ii) the number of students taking a remedial mathematics course at an institution of higher education described in Section 53B-2-101;
 - (iii) the number of students who graduate from a Utah public school and begin a postsecondary education program; and
 - (iv) the number of students, as compared to all similarly situated students, who are performing at grade level in STEM classes.
 - (b) The State Board of Education and the State Board of Regents shall provide information to the board to assist the board in complying with the requirements of Subsection (4)(a) if allowed under federal law.

Amended by Chapter 139, 2016 General Session

63N-12-206 Acquisition of STEM education related instructional technology program -- Research and development of education related instructional technology through a pilot program.

- (1) For purposes of this section:
- (a) "Pilot" means a pilot of the program.
 - (b) "Program" means the STEM education related instructional technology program created in Subsection (2).
- (2)
- (a) There is created the STEM education related instructional technology program to provide public schools the STEM education related instructional technology described in Subsection (3).
 - (b) On behalf of the board, the staff of the board and the staff of the State Board of Education shall collaborate and may select one or more providers, through a request for proposals

process, to provide STEM education related instructional technology to school districts and charter schools.

- (c) On behalf of the board, the staff of the board and the staff of the State Board of Education shall consider and may accept an offer from a provider in response to the request for proposals described in Subsection (2)(b) even if the provider did not participate in a pilot described in Subsection (5).
- (3) The STEM education related instructional technology shall:
 - (a) support mathematics instruction for students in:
 - (i) kindergarten through grade 6; or
 - (ii) grades 7 and 8; or
 - (b) support mathematics instruction for secondary students to prepare the secondary students for college mathematics courses.
- (4) In selecting a provider for STEM education related instructional technology to support mathematics instruction for the students described in Subsection (3)(a), the board shall consider the following criteria:
 - (a) the technology contains individualized instructional support for skills and understanding of the core standards in mathematics;
 - (b) the technology is self-adapting to respond to the needs and progress of the learner; and
 - (c) the technology provides opportunities for frequent, quick, and informal assessments and includes an embedded progress monitoring tool and mechanisms for regular feedback to students and teachers.
- (5) Before issuing a request for proposals described in Subsection (2), on behalf of the board, the staff of the board and the staff of the State Board of Education shall collaborate and may:
 - (a) conduct a pilot of the program to test and select providers for the program;
 - (b) select at least two providers through a direct award or sole source procurement process for the purpose of conducting the pilot; and
 - (c) select schools to participate in the pilot.
- (6)
 - (a) A contract with a provider for STEM education related instructional technology may include professional development for full deployment of the STEM education related instructional technology.
 - (b) No more than 10% of the money appropriated for the program may be used to provide professional development related to STEM education related instructional technology in addition to the professional development described in Subsection (6)(a).

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 283, 2015 General Session

63N-12-207 Distribution of STEM education instructional technology to schools.

- (1) Subject to legislative appropriations, on behalf of the board, the staff of the board and the staff of the State Board of Education shall collaborate and shall:
 - (a) distribute STEM education related instructional technology described in Section 63N-12-206 to school districts and charter schools; and
 - (b) provide related professional development to the school districts and charter schools that receive STEM education related instructional technology.
- (2) A school district or charter school may apply to the board, through a competitive process, to receive STEM education related instructional technology from the board.

- (3) A school district or charter school that receives STEM education related instructional technology as described in this section shall provide the school district's or charter school's own computer hardware.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 283, 2015 General Session

63N-12-208 Report to Legislature and the State Board of Education.

- (1) The board shall report the progress of the STEM Action Center, including the information described in Subsection (2), to the following groups once each year:
 - (a) the Education Interim Committee;
 - (b) the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee;
 - (c) the State Board of Education; and
 - (d) the office for inclusion in the office's annual written report described in Section 63N-1-301.
- (2) The report described in Subsection (1) shall include information that demonstrates the effectiveness of the program, including:
 - (a) the number of educators receiving high quality professional development;
 - (b) the number of students receiving services from the STEM Action Center;
 - (c) a list of the providers selected pursuant to this part;
 - (d) a report on the STEM Action Center's fulfillment of its duties described in Section 63N-12-205; and
 - (e) student performance of students participating in a STEM Action Center program as collected in Subsection 63N-12-205(4).

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 283, 2015 General Session

Amended by Chapter 292, 2015 General Session

63N-12-209 STEM education endorsements and incentive program.

- (1) The State Board of Education shall collaborate with the STEM Action Center to:
 - (a) develop STEM education endorsements; and
 - (b) create and implement financial incentives for:
 - (i) an educator to earn an elementary or secondary STEM education endorsement described in Subsection (1)(a); and
 - (ii) a school district or a charter school to have STEM endorsed educators on staff.
- (2) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the State Board of Education shall make rules establishing the uses of STEM education endorsements described in Subsection (1), including that:
 - (a) an incentive for an educator to take a course leading to a STEM education endorsement may only be given for a course that carries higher-education credit; and
 - (b) a school district or a charter school may consider a STEM education endorsement as part of an educator's salary schedule.

Amended by Chapter 139, 2016 General Session

63N-12-210 Acquisition of STEM education high quality professional development.

- (1) The STEM Action Center shall, through a request for proposals process, select technology providers for the purpose of providing a STEM education high quality professional development application.
- (2) The high quality professional development application described in Subsection (1) shall:

- (a) allow the State Board of Education, a school district, or a school to define the application's input and track results of the high quality professional development;
 - (b) allow educators to access automatic tools, resources, and strategies , including instructional materials with integrated STEM content ;
 - (c) allow educators to work in online learning communities, including giving and receiving feedback via uploaded video;
 - (d) track and report data on the usage of the components of the application's system and the relationship to improvement in classroom instruction;
 - (e) include video examples of highly effective STEM education teaching that:
 - (i) cover a cross section of grade levels and subjects;
 - (ii) under the direction of the State Board of Education, include videos of highly effective Utah STEM educators; and
 - (iii) contain tools to help educators implement what they have learned; and
 - (f) allow for additional STEM education video content to be added.
- (3) In addition to the high quality professional development application described in Subsections (1) and (2), the STEM Action Center may create STEM education hybrid or blended high quality professional development that allows for face-to-face applied learning.

Amended by Chapter 139, 2016 General Session

63N-12-211 STEM education middle school applied science initiative.

- (1) The STEM Action Center shall develop an applied science initiative for students in grades 7 and 8 that includes:
- (a) a STEM applied science curriculum with instructional materials;
 - (b) STEM hybrid or blended high quality professional development that allows for face-to-face applied learning; and
 - (c) hands-on tools for STEM applied science learning.
- (2) The STEM Action Center may, through a request for proposals process, select a consultant to assist in developing the initiative described in Subsection (1).

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 283, 2015 General Session

63N-12-212 High school STEM education initiative.

- (1) Subject to legislative appropriations, after consulting with State Board of Education staff, the STEM Action Center shall award grants to school districts and charter schools to fund STEM related certification for high school students.
- (2)
- (a) A school district or charter school may apply for a grant from the STEM Action Center, through a competitive process, to fund the school district's or charter school's STEM related certification training program.
 - (b) A school district's or charter school's STEM related certification training program shall:
 - (i) prepare high school students to be job ready for available STEM related positions of employment; and
 - (ii) when a student completes the program, result in the student gaining an industry-recognized employer STEM related certification.
- (3) A school district or charter school may partner with one or more of the following to provide a STEM related certification program:
- (a) an applied technology college within the Utah College of Applied Technology;

- (b) Salt Lake Community College;
- (c) Snow College;
- (d) Utah State University Eastern; or
- (e) a private sector employer.

Amended by Chapter 139, 2016 General Session

Amended by Chapter 236, 2016 General Session

63N-12-213 Computer science initiative for public schools.

(1) As used in this section:

- (a) "Computational thinking" means the set of problem-solving skills and techniques that software engineers use to write programs that underlie computer applications, including decomposition, pattern recognition, pattern generalization, and algorithm design.
 - (b) "Computer coding" means the process of writing script for a computer program or mobile device.
 - (c) "Educator" means the same as that term is defined in Section 53A-6-103.
 - (d) "Endorsement" means a stipulation, authorized by the State Board of Education and appended to a license, that specifies the areas of practice to which the license applies.
 - (e)
 - (i) "Institution of higher education" means the same as that term is defined in Section 53B-3-102.
 - (ii) "Institution of higher education" includes the Utah College of Applied Technology.
 - (f) "Employer" means a private employer, public employer, industry association, union, or the military.
 - (g) "License" means the same as that term is defined in Section 53A-6-103.
- (2) Subject to legislative appropriations, on behalf of the board, the staff of the board and the staff of the State Board of Education shall collaborate to develop and implement a computer science initiative for public schools by:
- (a) creating an online repository that:
 - (i) is available for school districts and charter schools to use as a resource; and
 - (ii) includes high quality computer science instructional resources that are designed to teach students in all grade levels:
 - (A) computational thinking skills; and
 - (B) computer coding skills;
 - (b) providing for professional development on teaching computer science by:
 - (i) including resources for educators related to teaching computational thinking and computer coding in the STEM education high quality professional development application described in Section 63N-12-210; and
 - (ii) providing statewide or regional professional development institutes; and
 - (c) awarding grants to a school district or charter school, on a competitive basis, that may be used to provide incentives for an educator to earn a computer science endorsement.
- (3) A school district or charter school may enter into an agreement with one or more of the following entities to jointly apply for a grant under Subsection (2)(c):
- (a) a school district;
 - (b) a charter school;
 - (c) an employer;
 - (d) an institution of higher education; or
 - (e) a non-profit organization.

- (4) To apply for a grant described in Subsection (2)(c), a school district or charter school shall submit a plan to the State Board of Education for the use of the grant, including a statement of purpose that describes the methods the school district or charter school proposes to use to incentivize an educator to earn a computer science endorsement.
- (5) The board and the State Board of Education shall encourage schools to independently pursue computer science and coding initiatives, subject to local school board or charter school governing board approval, based on the unique needs of the school's students.
- (6) The board shall include information on the status of the computer science initiative in the annual report described in Section 63N-12-208.

Enacted by Chapter 335, 2016 General Session

Part 3

Utah Broadband Outreach Center

63N-12-301 Title.

This part is known as the "Utah Broadband Outreach Center."

Enacted by Chapter 278, 2015 General Session

63N-12-302 Definitions.

As used in this part:

- (1)
 - (a) "Broadband" means high-speed Internet access that is always on.
 - (b) "Broadband" includes both mobile and fixed technologies.
- (2) "Center" means the Utah Broadband Outreach Center created in Section 63N-12-303.

Enacted by Chapter 278, 2015 General Session

63N-12-303 Creation of center.

- (1) There is created within GOED the Utah Broadband Outreach Center.
- (2) The executive director shall appoint a director of the center.
- (3) The director of the center may appoint staff with the approval of the executive director.

Enacted by Chapter 278, 2015 General Session

63N-12-304 Center responsibilities.

- (1) The center shall:
 - (a) coordinate broadband development policy and promotion among:
 - (i) voluntarily participating broadband providers in the state;
 - (ii) state and federal agencies; and
 - (iii) local government entities in the state;
 - (b) make recommendations to the governor and Legislature regarding policies and initiatives that promote the development of broadband-related infrastructure and help implement those policies and initiatives;

- (c) promote policies and initiatives that encourage private-sector deployment of infrastructure and public-private partnerships to increase broadband services to urban and rural communities;
 - (d) facilitate coordination between broadband providers and public and private entities;
 - (e) coordinate with broadband providers and other relevant stakeholders to promote the voluntary expansion of broadband infrastructure in both rural and urban communities;
 - (f) promote the adoption and utilization of up-to-date broadband technologies and infrastructure; and
 - (g) collect and analyze data on broadband availability and usage in the state, including Internet speed, capacity, unique visitors, and broadband infrastructure available throughout the state.
- (2) The center may:
- (a) work with broadband providers, state and local governments, and other public and private stakeholders to facilitate and encourage the expansion of broadband infrastructure throughout the state;
 - (b) work with state and local government entities to promote best practices that increase coordination between public and private partners and encourage broader deployment of broadband infrastructure;
 - (c) work with various stakeholders, including the Office of Rural Development created in Section 63N-4-102, the Governor's Rural Partnership Board created in Section 63C-10-102, chambers of commerce, developers, and state and local governments to market existing broadband infrastructure, particularly in rural communities;
 - (d) create a voluntary broadband advisory committee that may include broadband providers and other public and private stakeholders to solicit input on policy guidance, best practices, and broadband adoption strategies;
 - (e) partner with the Automated Geographic Reference Center created in Section 63F-1-506 to:
 - (i) collect and maintain a database and interactive map that displays residential and commercial broadband data;
 - (ii) display data regarding broadband availability on the center's website and make the data available for other state and national websites;
 - (iii) conduct research on broadband availability and adoption; and
 - (iv) conduct research to verify broadband availability data; and
 - (f) in accordance with the requirements of Title 63J, Chapter 5, Federal Funds Procedures Act:
 - (i) apply for federal grants;
 - (ii) participate in federal programs; and
 - (iii) in accordance with federal requirements, administer federally funded broadband-related programs.

Enacted by Chapter 278, 2015 General Session

63N-12-305 Reporting.

- (1) The center shall prepare an annual report describing the center's operations and recommendations for inclusion in GOED's annual written report described in Section 63N-1-301.
- (2) The center shall maintain a public website that:
 - (a) provides updated information regarding broadband coverage and availability in the state; and
 - (b) provides information as determined by the center that aids in marketing and expanding broadband and broadband infrastructure in the state.

Enacted by Chapter 278, 2015 General Session

